

law, Federal highway funds can be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation, but not for regular maintenance that would help extend the life of roadways and preserve taxpayers' investments. Consequently, maintenance of roads and bridges is deferred until they have deteriorated to the point where they qualify for major rehabilitation or reconstruction, at far greater expense. Visitors are put at risk when they try to drive around potholes that are too common on our park roads. My legislation would make regular maintenance of park roads eligible for federal highway funding.

As our national parks become increasingly crowded, alternative transportation systems are being relied upon to a much greater extent to help move visitors around. Unfortunately, that program is also severely underfunded. A third major focus of my bill would raise the annual funding level for the federal public lands transit program from the current \$24 million to \$100 million, with 60 percent of it being targeted for qualified projects in national parks.

Visitors from throughout our country and around the world are discovering the natural, cultural, and historic wonders that are embodied in our national parks. Their experience should not be diminished, and their safety certainly should not be placed at risk, while they visit our national parks. I urge you to join me in sponsoring this legislation to improve visitor safety and enjoyment of our parks through improved maintenance and management of its transportation systems.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM CORNELL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a faithful resident of Western New York, and a good friend, William F. "Bill" Cornell of Jamestown, who recently passed away at the age of 69.

Bill started his career as an instructor of English at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. In his later life, he worked as a data processing manager for Hopes Architectural Products, a position he held for twenty six years. He was also employed by the Carriage House in Fredonia.

Bill was an active member of the Chautauqua County Democratic Committee and was active in many civic and political causes in his hometown. A parishioner of Holy Angels Roman Catholic Church, Bill and his wife Peg were devoted parents to their children Chuck and Kathryn, and they were doting grandparents to 5 beautiful grandchildren.

I got to know Bill Cornell well during my initial campaign for Congress in 2004 and have come to know him well in the years that have passed since. A steadfast Democrat proud of his roots in Jamestown, Bill was the kind of fellow who would give you the shirt off of his back. While he will obviously be greatly missed by friends and family, as a rare breed of Jamestownian, he will be just as sorely missed by the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me and with our colleagues to honor the life of Bill Cornell and offer the sincerest condolences of the House to Peg, Chuck, Lori, Kathryn and Kurt, and to his entire family.

CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 9th, the Department of State will hold a reception celebrating the 25th anniversary of the au pair program. Host families, au pairs from Germany, Brazil, Thailand, South Africa, France, Sweden and Mexico, along with other countries, and federal officials from the Department of State, will participate in this event recognizing the strength and longevity of this cultural exchange program.

The first au pairs arrived in New York City in June of 1986. Since that time, the program has witnessed dramatic growth, thanks in part to the leadership and vision of one of the first authorized sponsors, Au Pair in America, a division of the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), located in Stamford, Connecticut. AIFS helped establish a regulatory framework that has allowed more than 87,000 young people to live with and care for the children of American families during a mutually rewarding one- or two-year experience.

This exchange experience has profoundly changed the lives of au pairs, the young children they care for and their host families through their daily exchange of ideas and broadening their global understanding through a sharing of culture, language, and religion. Furthermore, au pairs have been active contributing members of their American community where they live through their engagement in community and religious activities, giving of their time and talents to charitable organizations and volunteering their time to teach young children in schools about their native country.

As a proud alumni of one of AIFS's study abroad programs, I can personally attest to the unique educational opportunity living outside your native country provides a young student. For me, it was a life changing experience, helping expand my horizons and alter my way of thinking.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice in commending all those who have worked to develop and expand the au pair program over the past 25 years.

HONORING CALL FOR HELP, INCORPORATED FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO PEOPLE IN NEED WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Call for Help, Inc. an organization that is celebrating 40 years of changing lives.

Call for Help, Inc. provides the only 24-hour suicide hotline in the Metro-East area of Southwestern Illinois. Call for Help, Inc., was chartered in 1970 and began as a suicide and crisis hotline, operating out of a basement. While this critical service is still very much a part of Call for Help's program offerings, they

have expanded to meet other critical needs through the years.

Two residential programs have been added, one to serve individuals who are homeless and suffer from chronic mental illness. Participants in this program receive medication monitoring, counseling, life skills training and other services. The other residential program provides assistance to homeless young women who are either pregnant or have small children. These women receive support and skill development so they can achieve long-term independence. Training includes life skills, parenting, workplace readiness, GED and other subjects.

Call for Help, Inc. also provides assistance to victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse. Twenty-four-hour response to victims includes arriving on-site at the hospital or police station and help navigating the medical and legal systems.

Last year, Call for Help, Inc., provided critical assistance to over 25,000 individuals and, through the years, they have recorded countless, remarkable stories of success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Board of Directors, administration and staff of Call for Help, Inc., for their 40 years of changing lives and to wish them continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF MAJOR BRIAN J. THOMPSON, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Major Brian J. Thompson, United States Marine Corps, after 20 years of faithful service to his Nation.

Major Thompson graduated from Dowling College in Long Island, New York in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics and Management. He earned his commission as a second lieutenant through the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course in June 1991. Following his graduation from the Basic School in 1992, he reported to Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida, earning his wings in March of 1993.

Following UH-1N replacement pilot training, he reported to the "Gunrunners" of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269 (HMLA-269) in New River, North Carolina. While assigned to HMLA-269 he deployed with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 464 aboard the USS *Wasp*, during which he participated in Operation Strong Resolve as the H-1 Schedule Writer. Major Thompson then completed two deployments with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 162, cruising aboard the USS *Guam* and the USS *Saipan*. During these deployments, he participated in Operations Joint Endeavor, Assured Response, Quick Response, and Balkan Calm/Silver Knight, while serving in a variety of billets, including: Flight Line Officer, Squadron Weapons and Tactics Officer, Future Operations Officer, and Operations Officer.

In March 1999, Major Thompson reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola to serve as a